



Dylan Tiger [REDACTED] >

CU-CitizenAccess Publishing Notice

3 messages

Dylan Tiger [REDACTED]
To: dheuerman@co.champaign.il.us

Wed, Jul 17, 2019 at 12:08 PM

Hello Sheriff Heuerman,

I am writing to inform you that our jail investigation story, which you were previously contacted about, will be published by the end of next week.

I wanted to extend the courtesy to you and ask for comment one last time, given the significant public interest surrounding the story. If you recall, it is about the medical/facility conditions of the county jails and the lack of major improvements after them.

Despite being before your time as Sheriff, you indicated to WILL that you wanted to increase training because it had been reduced over the years under Walsh. Have you made any efforts to increase this training, specifically in the Corrections Division?

Are you familiar with the jail assessments completed in 2015 and 2013 (costing the County over \$200,000) and the resolutions made in those studies? Do you have any plans to implement the solutions recommended (24/7 medical staff, inadequate holding facilities, etc.)?

Lastly, do you still want to close the Downtown Jail as indicated to WILL in 2018?

Thanks,

Dylan Tiger
CUCitizenAccess.org

Dustin D. Heuerman <dheuerman@co.champaign.il.us>
To: Dylan Tiger <[REDACTED]>

Wed, Jul 17, 2019 at 1:24 PM

Good afternoon, Dylan. Thanks for reaching out again. Take a look at my responses below.

From: Dylan Tiger <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 12:09 PM
To: Dustin D. Heuerman <dheuerman@co.champaign.il.us>
Subject: CU-CitizenAccess Publishing Notice

Hello Sheriff Heuerman,

I am writing to inform you that our jail investigation story, which you were previously contacted about, will be published by the end of next week.

I wanted to extend the courtesy to you and ask for comment one last time, given the significant public interest surrounding the story. If you recall, it is about the medical/facility conditions of the county jails and the lack of major improvements after them.

Despite being before your time as Sheriff, you indicated to WILL that you wanted to increase training because it had been reduced over the years under Walsh. Have you made any efforts to increase this training, specifically in the Corrections Division? I believe our correctional officers are adequately trained during their correctional academy training, but my goal is to increase the ongoing training. It is important to me that correctional officers remain proficient in the skills they need to successfully accomplish their assigned tasks. Cultural diversity training is also important to me. We have formulated a continuous training plan to address training that isn't mandatory, but that plan has been difficult to execute because of some correctional officer vacancies that have occurred. It is difficult to send officers to optional training when we are working with a minimum number of officers on a shift (I'm requesting an additional correctional officer position for FY20, but not sure if the county board will approve that).

Are you familiar with the jail assessments completed in 2015 and 2013 (costing the County over \$200,000) and the resolutions made in those studies? Do you have any plans to implement the solutions recommended (24/7 medical staff, inadequate holding facilities, etc.)? As I'm finally getting my bearings with CCSO operations, I have been collaborating with the Jail Superintendent to evaluate if there is anything we can be doing in the jails to make our operations more effective and efficient. I'm still in the process of reviewing some of the recommendations and forming a plan for the best way to approach them. A lot of the recommendations have to do with money not currently budgeted, though. I've been working with the county board to try to identify additional funding sources to help accomplish these recommendations. While we are currently in compliance with applicable laws and regulations, renovating the Satellite Jail would give us the opportunity to create a space that better addresses our special population of inmates and would allow us to adapt to changing needs. Regarding our medical contract, we have one more year on that contract. When we pursue a new medical contract, it is my intent at this point to explore the option of 24/7 medical coverage. We currently have coverage for 18 hours a day, and have been told that having 24/7 coverage is very expensive, however am willing to explore it if it satisfies what is needed in our facilities. The ultimate determining factor, in my opinion, will come down to whether the County Board feels we have sufficient funding for this, as well as making the needed infrastructure changes to make the recommendations successful.

Lastly, do you still want to close the Downtown Jail as indicated to WILL in 2018? Yes – I think this is important. Maintenance of the facility has been neglected over the past decades which has limited our use of some areas of the downtown jail and unexpected issues coming up from time to time. It was also built with a different correctional philosophy in mind, so operations are not as efficient as I would like. To me it doesn't make sense to have two facilities. Unfortunately, with the different classifications of inmates we currently have, it is impossible to simply move the inmates to the Satellite jail without addressing physical changes to the facility.

Thanks,

Dylan Tiger

CUCitizenAccess.org

Dylan Tiger <[REDACTED]>
To: [REDACTED]

Wed, Jul 17, 2019 at 1:50 PM

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